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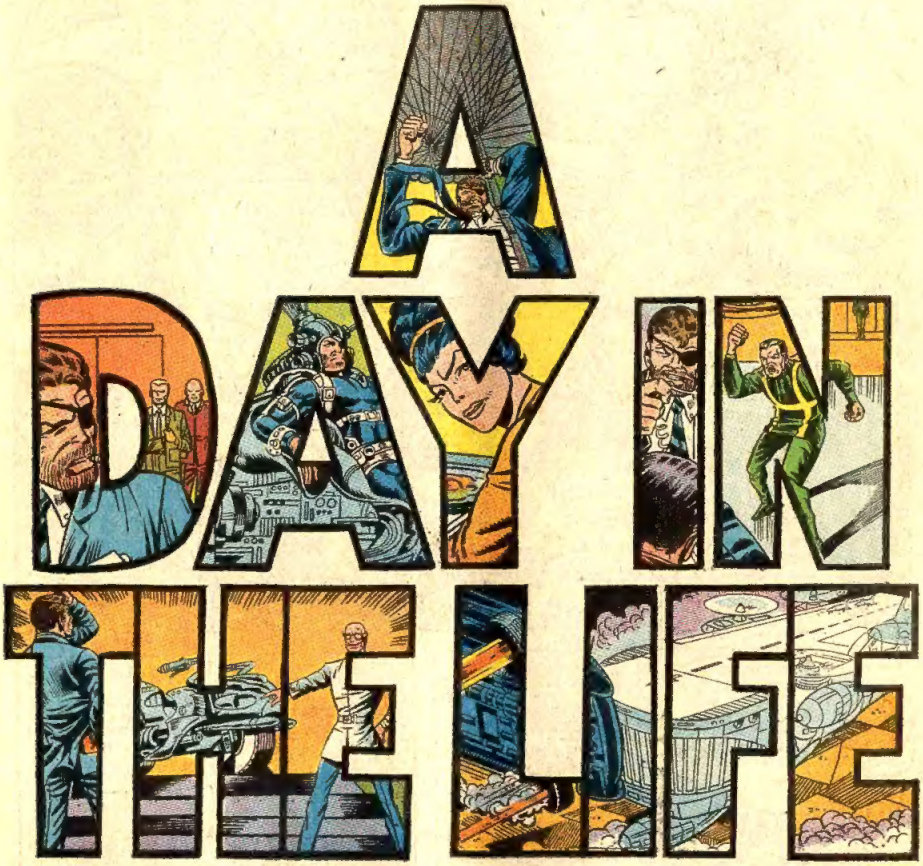

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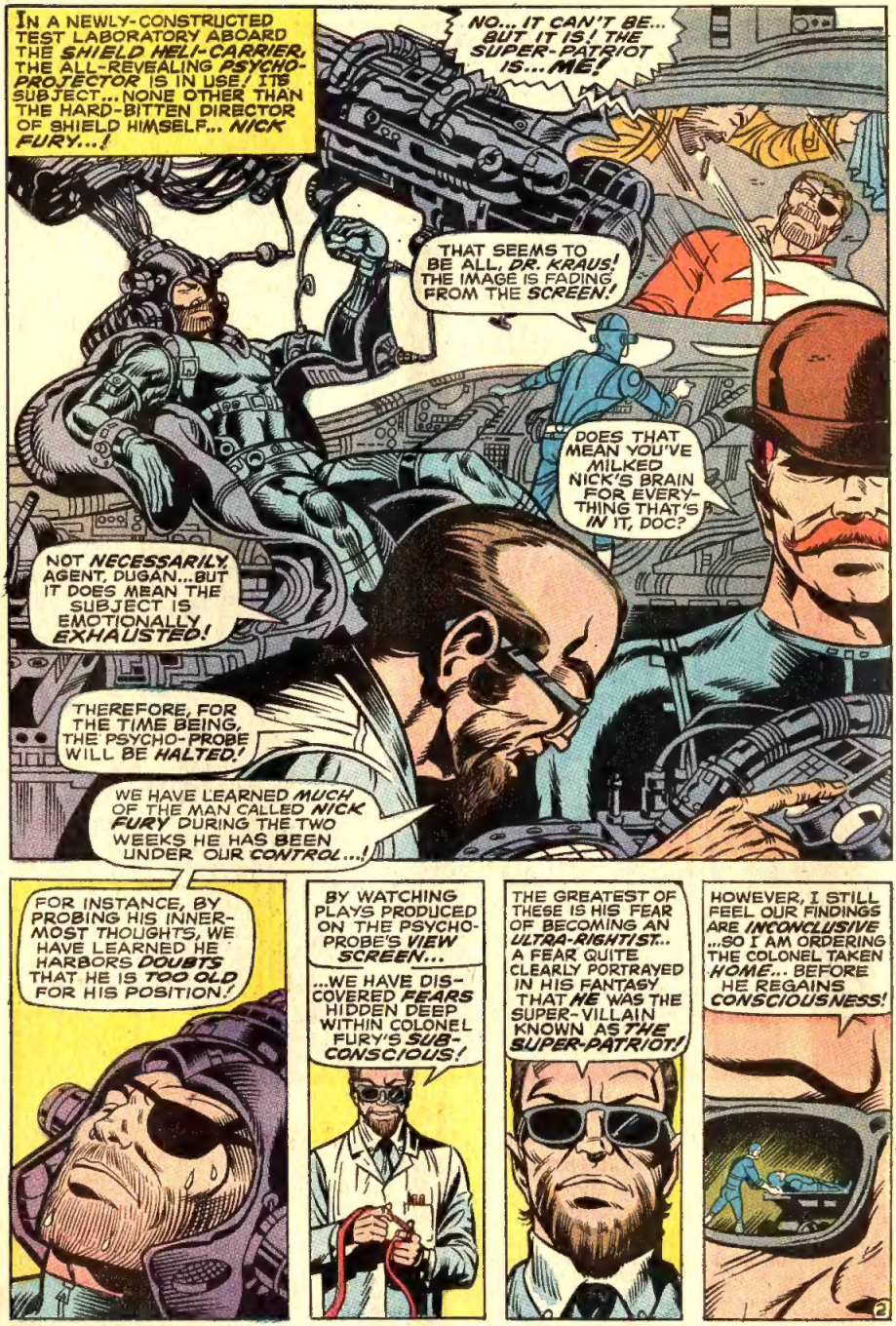
IN A NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED TEST LABORATORY ABOARD THE SHIELD HELI-CARRIER, THE ALL-REVEALING PSYCHO-PROJECTOR IS IN USE! ITS SUBJECT... NONE OTHER THAN THE HARD-BITTEN DIRECTOR OF SHIELD HIMSELF... NICK FURY...!
NO... IT CAN'T BE... BUT IT IS! THE SUPER-PATRIOT IS... ME!
THAT SEEMS TO BE ALL, DR. KRAUS! THE IMAGE IS FADING FROM THE SCREEN!
DOES THAT MEAN YOU'VE MILKED NICK'S BRAIN FOR EVERY-THING THAT'S IN IT, DOC?
NOT NECESSARILY, AGENT, DUGAN... BUT IT DOES MEAN THE SUBJECT IS EMOTIONALLY EXHAUSTED!
THEREFORE, FOR THE TIME BEING, THE PSYCHO-PROBE WILL BE HALTED!
WE HAVE LEARNED MUCH OF THE MAN CALLED NICK FURY DURING THE TWO WEEKS HE HAS BEEN UNDER OUR CONTROL...!
FOR INSTANCE, BY PROBING HIS INNER-MOST THOUGHTS, WE HAVE LEARNED HE HARBORS DOUBTS THAT HE IS TOO OLD FOR HIS POSITION!
BY WATCHING PLAYS PRODUCED ON THE PSYCHO-PROBE'S VIEW SCREEN...
...WE HAVE DIS-COVERED FEARS HIDDEN DEEP WITHIN COLONEL FURY'S SUB-CONSCIOUS!
THE GREATEST OF THESE IS HIS FEAR OF BECOMING AN ULTRA-RIGHTIST... A FEAR QUITE CLEARLY PORTRAYED IN HIS FANTASY THAT HE WAS THE SUPER-VILLAIN KNOWN AS THE SUPER-PATRIOT!
HOWEVER, I STILL FEEL OUR FINDINGS ARE INCONCLUSIVE ...SO I AM ORDERING THE COLONEL TAKEN HOME... BEFORE HE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!
2

"THEN, WHEN HE AWAKENS, HE WILL REMEMBER NOTHING OF WHAT HE HAS DREAMED... OR OF THESE TESTS!"
BRRRRRRRRRRING!
CLICK!
"AND, IF WE SO DECIDE, WE CAN TEST HIS SUB-CONSCIOUS MOTIVATIONS FURTHER AT A LATER DATE!"
"THE IMPORTANT THING FOR NOW IS THAT HE NOT REALIZE WE HAVE BEEN OBSERVING HIS THOUGHTS..."
..."AND, UNLESS SOMEONE INFORMS HIM, I CAN ASSURE YOU HE WILL NOT."
:UUUUNNNNHHHH!:
NINE O'CLOCK! YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN'! FEELS LIKE I JUST HIT THE SACK!
CAN'T ARGUE WITH THE NAVAL OBSERVATORY THOUGH! SO, I GUESS I BETTER GET CRACKIN'!
I MUST'A BEEN TO SOME KIND'A PARTY LAST NIGHT!
I FEEL LIKE WORLD WAR III'S BEEN FOUGHT INSIDE'A MY SKULL!
BETTER GET TO THE ALKA-SELTZER... BEFORE THE TOP'A MY HEAD BLOWS OFF!
WELL, WE WOULDN'T WANT THAT, WOULD WE, TIGER!
VAL...! WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOIN' HERE?
IT AIN'T THAT I'M NOT GLAD TO SEE YA... IT'S JUST THAT... :OOOHHHH!:
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! LAY THAT ALKA-SELTZER ON ME!
YES SIR! BUT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SUCH A CRAB ABOUT IT!
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE PRETTY LUCKY TO HAVE A NURSE LIKE ME AROUND AT TIMES LIKE THIS!
YOU GOT A POINT THERE! DUM DUM, DUGAN YOU AIN'T!
3

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FANS RAVE

Here are just a few of the hundreds of letters we receive every week, from baseball fans aged 8 to 80, from coast to coast!

STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL is the best baseball game I ever have had. Kids swamp over the back porch to play this game! Boy, it is a lot of fun! Thank you for making such a wonderful game. —*P. C., Attleboro, Mass.*

Just like real baseball. It is fun to play. —*G. V., Cincinnati, O.*

As close to realism as one can get and therefore far more superior to other competing baseball games. —*F. T., Manila, P.I.*

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I'm one hundred percent satisfied with it. The game provides hours of fun for me and my friends. It's very realistic, and true to life. —*C. H., Lanett, Ala.*

The best baseball game. It is realistic and yet not too difficult to play. —*P. M., Port Huron, Mich.*

Thank you for creating such an exciting yet realistic game and putting a shine to what might have been a boring summer. —*N. S., Los Angeles, Calif.*

Boys are waiting in line to play the game! —*A. H., Chicago, Ill.*

It has given me more pleasure than any other game. —*S. E., Rossville, Ind.*

The most exciting and fun game ever. —*L.S., Boston, Mass.*

It is so stupendous, words can't explain. —*J. R., Brooklyn, N. Y.*

Best on the market. —*J. E., Miami, Fla.*

Has given me more enjoyment than I have ever had from any one thing in my entire life. It's worth its weight in gold. As I love baseball, this game gives me something enjoyable to do during the off seasons as well as during the season. —*S. C., Temple City, Calif.*

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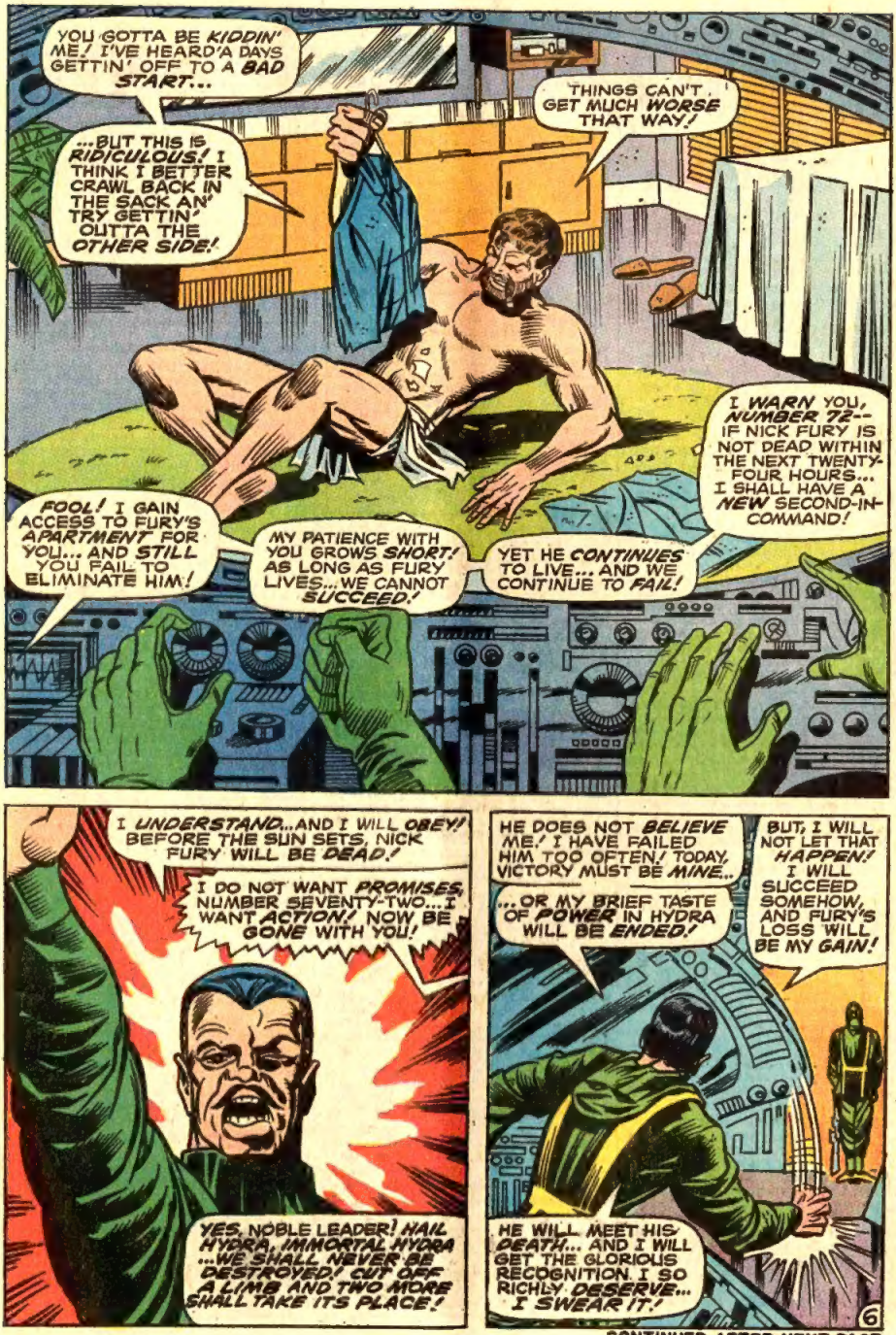
'CAUSE, AS SOON AS YOU FEEL ALL BETTER... YOU'RE DUE AT HEADQUARTERS FOR A BRIEFING ON SOME NEW EQUIPMENT!
GLUG! GURGGLE! GLUG!
AWRIGHT! JUST GET OUTTA HERE AND RUSTLE ME UP SOME BREAK-FAST!
I'LL BE OUT AS SOON AS I'M ABLE!
SHEESH! AN' I THOUGHT YOU WUZ HERE 'CAUSE YA CARED ABOUT ME!
I SHOULD'A KNOWN IT WUZ JUST BUSINESS!
YOU SAID IT, NICK! I DIDN'T!
CRAZY CHICK... I CAN'T EVER TELL IF SHE'S SERIOUS OR NOT!
ANYWAY, I MIGHT AS WELL CHECK IN WITH HQ... AND SEE WHO'S TRYIN' TO CONQUER THE WORLD TODAY!
SLAM!
HQ...HQ! THIS IS FURY! COME ON IN, BLAST IT!
GOOD MORNING, COLONEL! THIS IS AGENT HUFF AT HEADQUARTERS!
I TRUST YOU HAD A PLEASANT SLEEP!
YEAH... JUST LIKE I WAS TAKEN MY Z'S IN A BLAMED CEMENT MIXER!
SKIP THE SMALL TALK AND TELL ME WHAT'S GOIN' ON!
AS YOU WISH, COLONEL! NOTHING HAP-PENED OVERNIGHT! ALL CHECKPOINTS REPORT NO ENEMY ACTIVITY!
AND, ACCORDING TO YOUR SCHEDULE, YOU HAVE A QUIET DAY IN STORE! NOTHING ON THE AGENDA BUT A BRIEFING WITH THE MUNITIONS DEPARTMENT!
I ALREADY KNEW THAT! A LOTTA HELP YOU ARE, HUFF! NOW, WHY DON'TCHA SKIP OUT FOR COFFEE WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND...
KLIK!
...OR SOMETHIN' USEFUL! I'LL TALK TA YA LATER!
I'LL DO JUST AS YOU SAY, COLONEL... AND ...MMMMPPFFF!
4

MAYBE A SHOWER'LL HELP!
IT CAN'T MAKE ME FEEL ANY WORSE!
I BETTER MAKE IT COLD, THOUGH...
...A STREAM OF HOT WATER'D PUT ME BACK TO SLEEP! I--
SSSS
GAS!
GOTTA... SHUT IT OFF!
HAK! KOFF!... OR THAT GAS IS GONNA... HAK!... TURN ME OFF... FOR KEEPS!
DIDN'T MAKE IT... A SECOND TOO SOON!
A LITTLE LONGER, AND I'D HAVE BEEN FINISHED!
WHEN YA CAN'T EVEN TAKE A SHOWER WITHOUT SOMEBODY TRYIN' TA KNOCK YA OFF...
...YA GOTTA START WONDERIN' IF IT'S SAFE TA TAKE A BREATH!
MIGHT AS WELL FORGET IT, THOUGH! I'LL HAVE A COUPLE'A THE GUYS CHECK OUT THAT SHOWER LATER!
FOR NOW, I JUST WANNA GET INTO A CLEAN SUIT... AND GET OUTTA HERE!
HARD TELLIN' WHAT'LL HAPPEN WHEN I TRY TA PUT ON MY THREADS!
HOLY HANNAH!
5


YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME! I'VE HEARD'A DAYS GETTIN' OFF TO A BAD START...
...BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS! I THINK I BETTER CRAWL BACK IN THE SACK AN' TRY GETTIN' OUTTA THE OTHER SIDE!
THINGS CAN'T GET MUCH WORSE THAT WAY!
I WARN YOU, NUMBER 72-- IF NICK FURY IS NOT DEAD WITHIN THE NEXT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS... I SHALL HAVE A NEW SECOND-IN-COMMAND!
FOOL! I GAIN ACCESS TO FURY'S APARTMENT FOR YOU... AND STILL YOU FAIL TO ELIMINATE HIM!
MY PATIENCE WITH YOU GROWS SHORT! AS LONG AS FURY LIVES... WE CANNOT SUCCEED!
YET HE CONTINUES TO LIVE... AND WE CONTINUE TO FAIL!
I UNDERSTAND... AND I WILL OBEY! BEFORE THE SUN SETS, NICK FURY WILL BE DEAD!
I DO NOT WANT PROMISES, NUMBER SEVENTY-TWO... I WANT ACTION! NOW BE GONE WITH YOU!
YES, NOBLE LEADER! HAIL HYDRA, IMMORTAL HYDRA ...WE SHALL NEVER BE DESTROYED! CUT OFF A LIMB AND TWO MORE SHALL TAKE ITS PLACE!
HE DOES NOT BELIEVE ME! I HAVE FAILED HIM TOO OFTEN! TODAY, VICTORY MUST BE MINE..
...OR MY BRIEF TASTE OF POWER IN HYDRA WILL BE ENDED!
BUT, I WILL NOT LET THAT HAPPEN! I WILL SUCCEED SOMEHOW, AND FURY'S LOSS WILL BE MY GAIN!
HE WILL MEET HIS DEATH... AND I WILL GET THE GLORIOUS RECOGNITION I SO RICHLY DESERVE... I SWEAR IT!
6

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

BATTY BULLETINS TO BEWILDER, BEWITCH, AND BEDAZZLE YOU!

ITEM! Have you been wondering what's happened to Jaunty JIM STERANKO? Well, the news is finally out. Starting this month, you'll see him represented in Marvel's newest and most off-beat suspense mags — TOWER OF SHADOWS and CHAMBER OF DARKNESS! Those of you who are dyed-in-the-wool fans of ghost stories, witchcraft, and tales of the macabre (and who isn't?) are gonna have a real field day with these groovy grotesqueries — and wait'll you see who some of the other artists are!

ITEM! We know you've been hangin' by your thumbs waiting to learn the names of our two new romance mags also! (Think of the bread you'll save buying THESE for your gal friends instead of diamonds and Rolls-Royces!) The titles are MY LOVE and OUR LOVE STORY . . . (Kinda grabs you, huh?) . . . and, if you think Ring-A-Ding ROMITA and Big JOHN BUSCEMA are unbeatable at superhero stuff, you'll blow your cerebelliums when you see the way they handle these tintinnabulatin' tear-jerkers! (Know something? With our nutty luck, they'll probably become runaway best-sellers and we'll be stuck doing 'em forever! Oh well — it's better than working!)

ITEM! Here's a belated "Thank-u" to Blushin' BILL RYAN, an old fan of ours who's now a song-writer/vocalist with the wildly sensational SNOW. Their newest album cover is probably the artiest of the month. Y'know, we're suddenly reminded that we have so many good friends in the recording biz that it may not pay us to hire any more artists for the batty Bullpen — unless they can sing or play a guitar! The only thing buggin' us is — how come the N.Y. Philharmonic haven't sent us THEIR latest release yet? C'mon, Lennie boy — let's get with it, huh?

ITEM! This one's for Fancy NANCY MURPHY, our syncopated subscription sweetie. Nice Nan, who sends out all the subscription copies, back ishes, and anything else you send your clammy little coins to us for, wants to ask you NOT to put any money in your fan mail. If you're sending us a check, money order, or negotiable securities, be sure to put the loot in a SEPARATE ENVELOPE and address it to SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., BACK-ISSUE DEPT., or whatever it is you're sending for. If you enclose your order in a fan mail envelope, it'll take weeks and weeks longer to receive your goodies, because the letter has to be tossed back and forth till it gets to the right department. Okay? Okay!

ITEM! Have you noticed that our x-travagantly x-citing X-MEN sagas are back to 20 full pages again? When we saw the powerful, pulsatin' pencil-work of Nefarious NEAL ADAMS — not to mention the incredible inking of Terrific TOMMY PALMER — we figured that it would be a crime to deprive a wildly waiting world of those extra five pages! And didja know that the Nefarious One colors his own pages, also? All of a sudden, our merry ménage of mutants is one of the mags that're definitely not to be missed!

ITEM! Rascally ROY's been skipping around with a smile from ear to ear lately. Why? We thought you'd never ask! It seems that Big JOHN B's talented kid brother will be taking over the illustration chores of THE AVENGERS starting next month! Yep, Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA is not only one of the top inkers around, but when you see his pencil work you'll realize why the Bullpen figures we oughtta keep the two Mr. B's under lock and key like for the next hundred years!

ITEM! It looks as though sunny California has been agreeing with the King! Yep, since moving out there, Jolly JACK KIRBY has been working faster than ever and is actually getting ahead of his super-human schedule! This means he may have time to handle still another mag within the next year. So here's your chance to sound off again, faithful one! Which strip is most worthy of the Master's touch? Should we finally launch the INHUMANS? DR. DOOM? KA-ZAR? Or, do you have some other oldie or newie you'd like him to bring to life? Sock it to us, sweetie, and we'll let you know how the mail keeps coming in!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Every time one of our sagacious superheroes guest-stars in another mag we get bombarded with the same type of complaints from Marveldom Assembled! "How can Thor be fighting litterbugs with Nick Fury when he's in outer space with Winken, Blinken, and Nod in his own mag?" Or "How can Captain America be trapped by Aunt May in Spidey's mag when he's running a school for teen-age dropouts in his own swingin' stanza?" So, we have two choices. Either we stop crossover guest-starring, or we ask you to permit us a little literary license. If the doings of one of our repertory players in his own mag doesn't seem to jibe with his cameo appearance in some other mag during the same month, let's just say that one story took place a few days before, or after the other, and let it go at that, huh? Anyway, we'll try it for a while and see how it shakes you! (And, if the aforementioned has in any way confused you — welcome to the club!)

Excelsior!
Smiley

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

TOWER OF SHADOWS #1: Marvel's newest, most mysterious mag! Tales of weird and maddening menace, tinged with witchcraft and the dark unknown! And, talk about artwork! If a book of the macabre can be called beautiful, this is it!

FANTASTIC FOUR #90: A superhuman Skrull from outer space has landed here on earth. But, he doesn't want to conquer our planet. No, all he wants is — to enslave the Thing! It's dynamite!

SPIDER-MAN #76: You knew we've been leading up to it for months — and now, it's happening! Spidey battles the loathsome Lizard, in one of the most daringly dramatic dazzlers of all!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #117: Introducing Marvel's newest and possibly most dynamic fighting hero — the Falcon! Also, see Cap battle, single-handed, against the deadly Exiles! Better buy it fast!

AVENGERS #67: To fight the invincible foe — that's the impossible mission of our awesome assemblers, aided by Iron Man and the mighty Thor! For . . . Ultron-6 lives!

X-MEN #59: "Do or Die, Baby!" The title tells it all — as our masked misfits battle to the finish with the Sentinels! With a way-out wind-up that'll rock ya!

DAREDEVIL #55: It's kill or be killed, when DD takes on the sinister Mr. Fear — high above the sprawling city! But, to make things even worse — our scarlet swashbuckler's turned coward! When it rains — !

THOR #167: The Thunder God receives the most awesome punishment of all — at the hands of the all-powerful Odin! See Don Blake on earth once more! See the villainy of Loki! Greatness lurks within!

HULK #119: Once again, the green-skinned rampager must face the murderous might of the mad Maximus and his band of evil Inhumans! If action is your dish, this one's a feast!

IRON MAN #17: The marauder called Midas — the macabre Madame Masque — and an LMD who has vowed to destroy Tony Stark — and take his place! No wonder we call it — "The Beginning of the End!"

SUB-MARINER #17: Namor begins a quest which will take him to the land of his birth — only to encounter a menace from the very stars! And, wait'll you learn the far-out scheme of — the Stalker!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #16: A new life — and a colorful new costume — for Mar-Vell, as our space-born superhero takes on the entire Kree Galaxy! Plus, at long last — the sinister secret of Zo! A turning point!

SHIELD #14: A day in the life of Nick Fury — but what a day! 'Cause, now the hostile hordes of Hydra have joined Shield on the trail of our hard-hitting fugitive! Thrill follows thrill!

DR. STRANGE #182: Nightmare — Eternity — and Juggernaut makes three! Our master of black magic faces three of the most powerful entities in all the universe! A cataclysmic classic!

SGT. FURY #69: Our stogie-smokin' sarge is a captive — of the Nazi called Colonel Klaue! Then, enter the Howlers — and the home front will never be the same again! A gasser!

CAPT. SAVAGE #16: War — in a winter wonderland! But, find it where you may, it's still a living hell — 'cause the Battlefield Raiders play for keeps! Bring your own combat helmets!

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #22: Talk about Marvel masterworks! This ish features two of the earliest classic epics of the X-Men and the ol' Man Without Fear himself — Daredevil! Plus pin-ups, yet!

MARVEL TALES #22: One of the most famous Spidey tales from the pulsatin' past — as the wall-crawler takes on the Green Goblin! Also, Thor and the Torch! Need we say more?

MILLIE THE MODEL #174

CHILI #5: More merry, mixed-up misadventures of America's most mirthful models and their fascinatin' flock of flipped-out friends! A riot of loony laughs!

MY LOVE #1: Everybody loves a lover, and we're no exception! You don't haveta be hung-up on heartthrobs, but if you like to look at gorgeous gals — this is the place to find 'em, Charlie!

AND, STILL ON SALE—

SILVER SURFER #7: Once again the name of Frankenstein spreads fear thruout the land — and only the Silver Surfer can save mankind from the strangest threat of all!

COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #22: Want more of the F.F. — Dr. Strange — and Iron Man? You got it! Plus, a bombshell bonus — the very first appearance of Henry Pym . . . the Ant-Man!

RAWHIDE KID #71: The most dreaded cry of all is heard on the frontier: "Indian War!" It's Rawhide at his sluggin', six-shootin' best — against the most deadly enemy in the West!

MAD ABOUT MILLIE #3: Twice as much Millie-madness for less than twice the price! How can you miss? It's worth the cost alone to see how often Smiley's name appears! And, it's all new, new, new!

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Sell Only 6 Boxes

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Sell Only 6 Boxes

JR. MICROSCOPE LAB
Sell Only 8 Boxes

ENGLISH BICYCLE
Sell Only 30 Boxes

OUIJA BOARD
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POCKET RADIO
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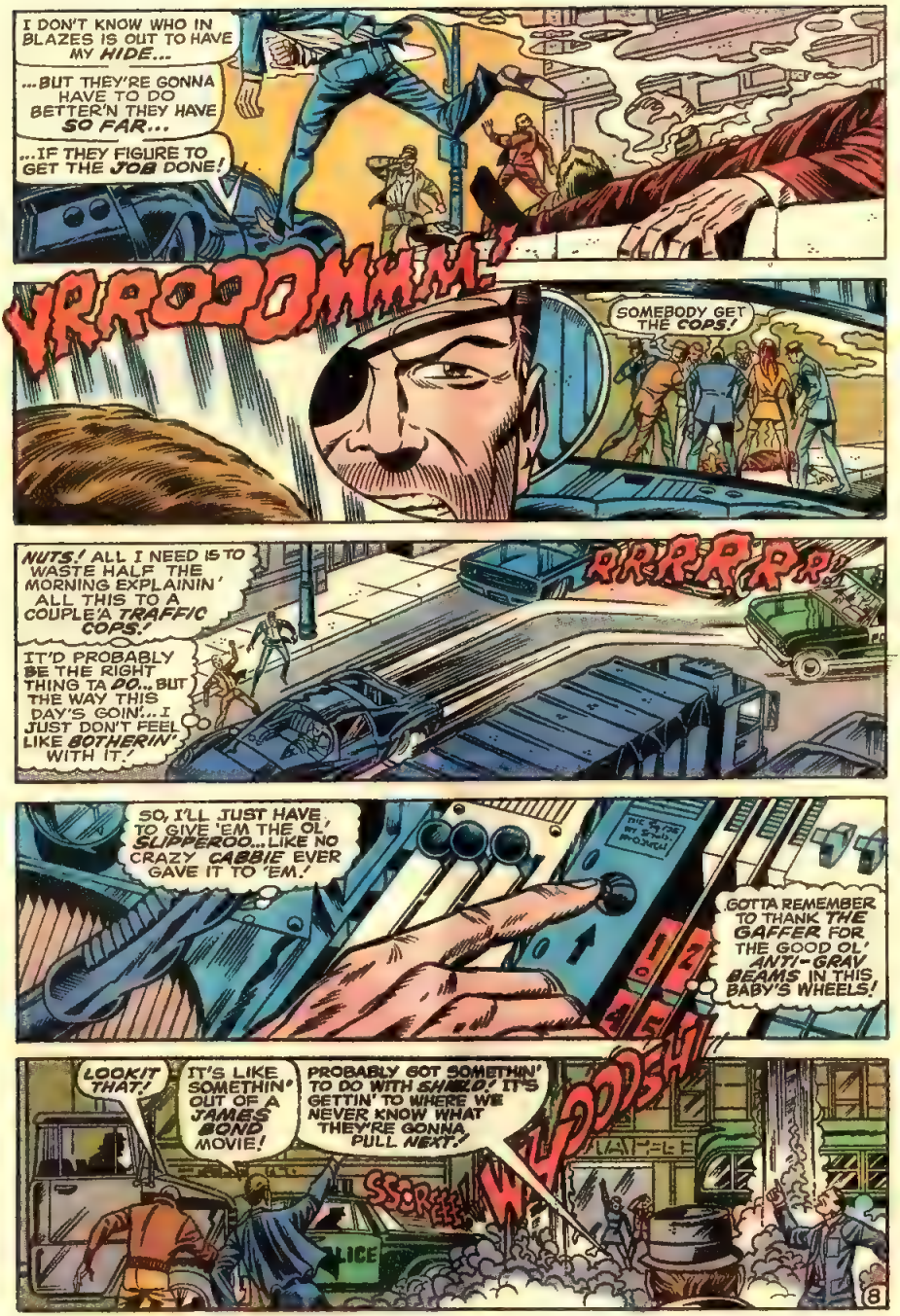
MY NAME _____ Print clearly

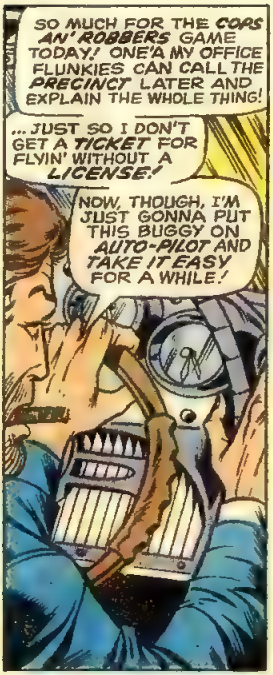
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

YOU CAN SKIP THE BREAKFAST, VAL...
... I JUST LOST MY APPETITE!
WHAT? BUT, NICK... I FIXED EVERYTHING YOU LIKE, AND...
I SAID FERGIT IT! I JUST AIN'T HUNGRY!
ALL RIGHT! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BITE MY HEAD OFF!..
...AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO IN UNSHAVEN, EITHER!
I DON'T HAVE TA PUT UP WITH SOME WOMAN TELLIN' ME WHAT TO DO, EITHER!
SO JUST SHUDDUP AND LEMME GET TA WORK! I'LL SEE YA AROUND!
7


I DON'T KNOW WHO IN BLAZES IS OUT TO HAVE MY HIDE...
...BUT THEY'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO BETTER'N THEY HAVE SO FAR...
...IF THEY FIGURE TO GET THE JOB DONE!
VRROOOMM!
SOMEBODY GET THE COPS!
NUTS! ALL I NEED IS TO WASTE HALF THE MORNING EXPLAININ' ALL THIS TO A COUPLE'A TRAFFIC COPS!
IT'D PROBABLY BE THE RIGHT THING TA DO... BUT THE WAY THIS DAY'S GOIN'... I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE BOTHERIN' WITH IT.
RRRRRRR!
SO, I'LL JUST HAVE TO GIVE 'EM THE OL' SLIPPEROO... LIKE NO CRAZY CABBIE EVER GAVE IT TO 'EM!
GOTTA REMEMBER TO THANK THE GAFFER FOR THE GOOD OL' ANTI-GRAV BEAMS IN THIS BABY'S WHEELS!
LOOKIT THAT!
IT'S LIKE SOMETHIN' OUT OF A JAMES BOND MOVIE!
PROBABLY GOT SOMETHIN' TO DO WITH SHIELD! IT'S GETTIN' TO WHERE WE NEVER KNOW WHAT THEY'RE GONNA PULL NEXT!
WOOOSH!
SSORRRR!
LICE
8


SO MUCH FOR THE COPS AN' ROBBERS GAME TODAY! ONE'A MY OFFICE FLUNKIES CAN CALL THE PRECINCT LATER AND EXPLAIN THE WHOLE THING!
...JUST SO I DON'T GET A TICKET FOR FLYIN' WITHOUT A LICENSE!
NOW, THOUGH, I'M JUST GONNA PUT THIS BUGGY ON AUTO-PILOT AND TAKE IT EASY FOR A WHILE!

AWWW, MAYBE VAL DID HAVE SOMETHIN'! MY FACE FEELS LIKE THE BACK OF A MAD PORCUPINE!
I GUESS IT AIN'T TOO COOL FOR THE DIRECTOR'A SHIELD TA GO IN LOOKIN' LIKE THE CHUM THAT AIN'T BEEN SPOILED!

GUESS IT CAN'T DO ME MUCH HARM TA CHOP OFF A FEW WHISKERS...

...EVEN IF I AIN'T GOT MY HAI-KARATE AFTER-SHAVE WITH ME!

SO, I'LL JUST PLUG THIS GIZMO IN...AND SIT BACK AN' PRETEND I'M IN A SWEDISH BARBER SHOP!
...GETTIN' THE WORKS FROM SOME GOOD-LOOKIN' BLONDE BARBER THAT---
YEEEOOOOWW!!
ZZZZT!

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Like Mr. America, Dave Draper, you can twist for 10 minutes daily with this exciting new exerciser! Packs power and muscle into your arms—adds inches to your chest—builds rippling back muscles —thickens and strengthens your wrists for sports or work. Fun to use. Needs no adjusting or setting—twist it instantly—as it comes out of the box!

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Puts fearsome, "octopus"-gripping power into your hands and fingers. New!—specially imported from the Karate Masters of Japan. Use it 5-minutes daily and feel new strength and deadly power surge into your hands **instantly!** Develops a powerful grip for all sports! Builds "Mr. Universe" wrists and forearms. Sturdy but lightweight—take it with you ANYWHERE!

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Saves your feet, knees, back and head when doing standing, kneeling and lying down exercises. Great for wrestling, and gymnastics, and hand-balancing. Helps prevent scratches, bruises and minor injuries. Made of soft, lightweight but durable material (poly-foam-filled). Measures 41" x 72". Folds into easy, compact size. Wipes clean with a damp cloth. Use as beach mat, too

Weighs only 5 lbs. $9.95*

120 LBS. "BIG 16" BARBELL SET

Now pack muscle on your body wherever you need it most—like all the "Mr. America", "Mr. Universe" champs!—with this fabulous set. Use the barbell for herculean power; the dumbbells for sculptured muscle; swingbell for waist-line perfection; kettlebells for "yard-wide" shoulders; iron-boots for "jet powered" legs. Headstrap for "wrestler sized" neck.

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Complete with Free $5 course. . . . $13.95*

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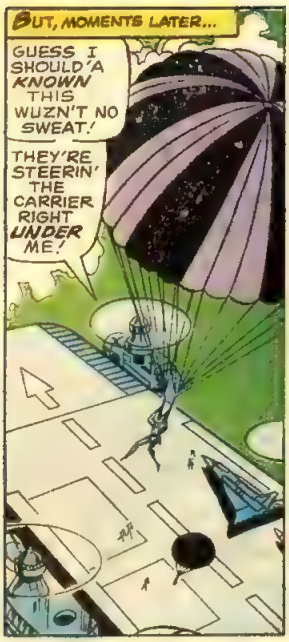
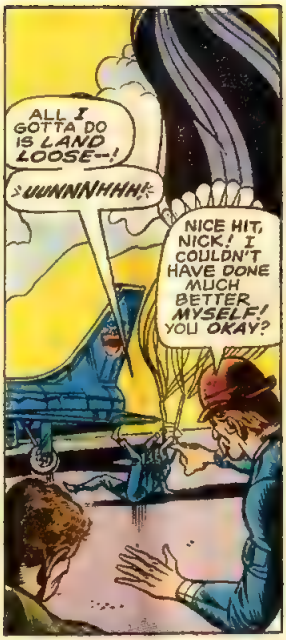
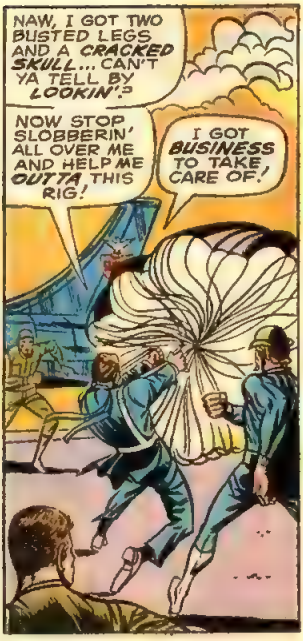
HE MANAGED TO PULL THE CORD BEFORE THE SHOCK REACHED HIS HEART!
WE'VE FAILED AGAIN!
PHEW! TO SAY THIS'S BEEN A SHOCKIN' MORNIN' SO FAR'D BE THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF THE YEAR!
I'D HAVE BEEN FINISHED IF THE JOLT HADN'T KNOCKED ME BACKWARDS ...MAKIN' ME PULL OUT THE PLUG!
BETTER CONCENTRATE ON DOCKIN' THIS HEAP FOR NOW, THOUGH!
FURY TO CARRIER... REQUESTIN' PERMISSION TO COME IN AT DOCK B ...OVER.!
COMMAND TO FURY! PERMISSION TO LAND AT DOCK B GRANTED...
...BUT, BE CAREFUL! OUR SPOTTERS NOTE A MALFUNCTION IN YOUR LEFT FRONT ANTI-GRAV WHEEL!
10

THEN...CAN YA FOAM THE DOCKIN' HATCH?
OR AM I GONNA HAVE TA MAKE LIKE A SKY-DIVER?
WE COULD TRY TO FOAM IT, SIR...BUT YOU'D BE TAKING A BIG CHANCE!
RECOMMEND YOU EJECT... REPEAT, EJECT!
I AIN'T MADE THIS SCENE MUCH SINCE THE OLD HOWLER DAYS!
...BUT THIS'S AS A GOOD A TIME AS ANY TO GET BACK IN THE GROOVE!
FURY TO CONTROL...I'M BAILIN' OUT!
FWOOOSSH!
THEN, FIVE SECONDS LATER...
WELL, AT LEAST THE BLASTED CHUTE OPENED!
NOW ALL I GOTTA DO IS MANAGE TO HIT THE CARRIER!
'CAUSE, IF I MISS IT...THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT THE JERSEY SWAMPS BELOW...
...AND THAT AIN'T MUCH OF A PLACE TO LAND, UNLESS SQUIRMIN' AROUND IN QUICKSAND IS YER BAG!
11


BUT, MOMENTS LATER...
GUESS I SHOULD'A KNOWN THIS WUZN'T NO SWEAT!
THEY'RE STEERIN' THE CARRIER RIGHT UNDER ME!


ALL I GOTTA DO IS LAND LOOSE--!
WUNNNHHH!
NICE HIT, NICK! I COULDN'T HAVE DONE MUCH BETTER MYSELF! YOU OKAY?

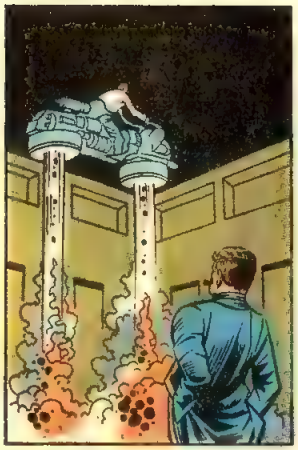

NAW, I GOT TWO BUSTED LEGS AND A CRACKED SKULL... CAN'T YA TELL BY LOOKIN'?
NOW STOP SLOBBERIN' ALL OVER ME AND HELP ME OUTTA THIS RIG!
I GOT BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF!

THEN, AFTER A BRIEF ELEVATOR RIDE INTO THE HEART OF THE HELI-CARRIER...
...AND THAT'S JUST HOW THE DAY'S GONE SO FAR! I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT...
...BUT I EXPECT SOMEBODY TO FIND OUT... BEFORE WHOEVER'S TRYIN' TO KNOCK ME OFF GETS LUCKY...
...AND DOES THE JOB!

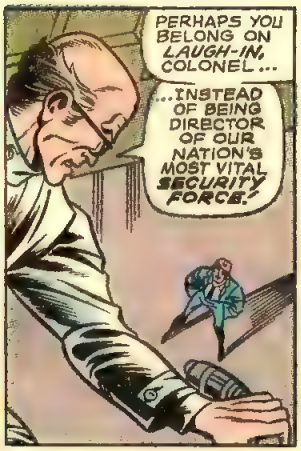
WE'LL GET SOME PEOPLE RIGHT ON IT, NICK!
MEANTIME, DON'T FERGIT YOU'RE DUE IN MUNITIONS... FOR A HUDDLE WITH THE GAFFER!
HOW COULD I? CAN YA FORGET A DATE WITH A NEEDLE-HAPPY SAWBONES?

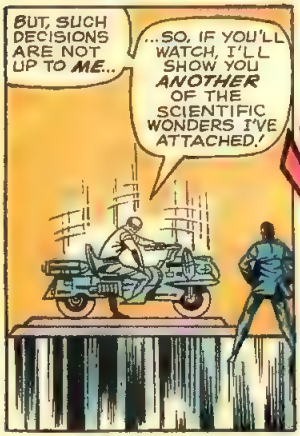
OF ALL THE TIMES FOR THE GAFFER TA COME UP WITH SOME NUTTY NEW GIZMOS...
...MAYBE I OUGHTTA JUST TELL 'IM TA TAKE 'EM TO THE TINKER TOY COMPANY!
DANGER! NO SMOKING! MUNITIONS
BUT, WHO KNOWS? MAYBE THIS TIME HE'LL HAVE SOMETHIN' USEFUL FOR ME!
ANYWAY, I GOT A HUNCH I'M ABOUT TO FIND OUT!

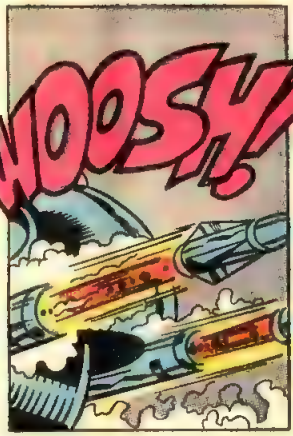
WHADDAYA SAY, GAFFER? WHAT'S SHIELD'S ANSWER TA GYRO GEARLOOSE GOT COOKIN' TODAY?
A WORK OF TECHNOLOGY FAR TOO GREAT TO BE APPRECIATED BY THE LIKES OF YOU, COLONEL...
...BUT, SINCE YOU OKAY MY PAY CHECKS, I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO SHOW IT TO YOU!
POSITIVELY NO SMOKING
IF YOU'LL JUST FOLLOW ME, BEHIND THIS CURTAIN IS MY GREATEST CREATION...
...AND ONE WHICH I HOPE YOU'LL BE MORE CAREFUL WITH THAN YOU WERE WITH MY AUTOMOBILE WHICH YOU JUST DESTROYED!
SORRY 'BOUT THAT, GAFF!
JUST BE QUIET... AND LOOK!
ZZZT!
WELL, WASH MY BLACK LEATHER JACKET AND CALL ME FREE-WHEELIN' FRANK!
THAT'S REALLY SOMETHIN'... BUT, I AIN'T BEEN PLANNIN' TA JOIN THE ANGELS!
THAT'S PRETTY FUNNY, SIR... BUT, IF YOU COULD STRAIN YOUR FEEBLE MIND LONG ENOUGH TO BE SERIOUS...
I'LL TRY TO POINT OUT TO YOU SOME OF THE AMAZING CREATIONS OF MINE WHICH HAVE BEEN BUILT INTO IT!
HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO DO SO, I'LL HAVE TO MOUNT THE MACHINE!
HEY... IF YA PUT FOUR LEGS ON THAT BUGGY... YOU'D BE A DEAD RINGER FOR GABBY HAYES!
LOOK... DO YOU WANT THIS MAGNIFICENT MACHINE ADDED TO YOUR ARSENAL ...OR NOT?
WHY, UH... SURE I DO, GAFFER! BY ALL MEANS... GO AHEAD WITH THE DEMON-STRATION!
VERY WELL! FIRST, LIKE YOUR LATE, LAMENTED AUTOMOBILE...
...THIS VEHICLE HAS THE POWER OF FLIGHT! YOU NEED ONLY TOUCH THE ANTI-GRAV CONTROL BUTTON...
...LIKE SO!

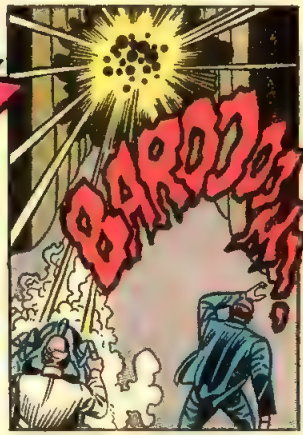


ALL I CAN SAY IS, IT'S A BLASTED SHAME *PETER FONDA* DIDN'T HAVE ONE'A THEM IN THAT *PICTURE* LAURA DRAGGED ME TO SEE LAST YEAR!


PERHAPS YOU BELONG ON *LAUGH-IN*, COLONEL...
...INSTEAD OF BEING DIRECTOR OF OUR NATION'S MOST VITAL *SECURITY FORCE!*

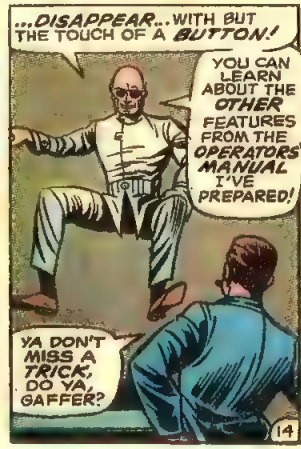

BUT, SUCH DECISIONS ARE NOT UP TO *ME*...
...SO, IF YOU'LL WATCH, I'LL SHOW YOU *ANOTHER* OF THE SCIENTIFIC WONDERS I'VE ATTACHED!

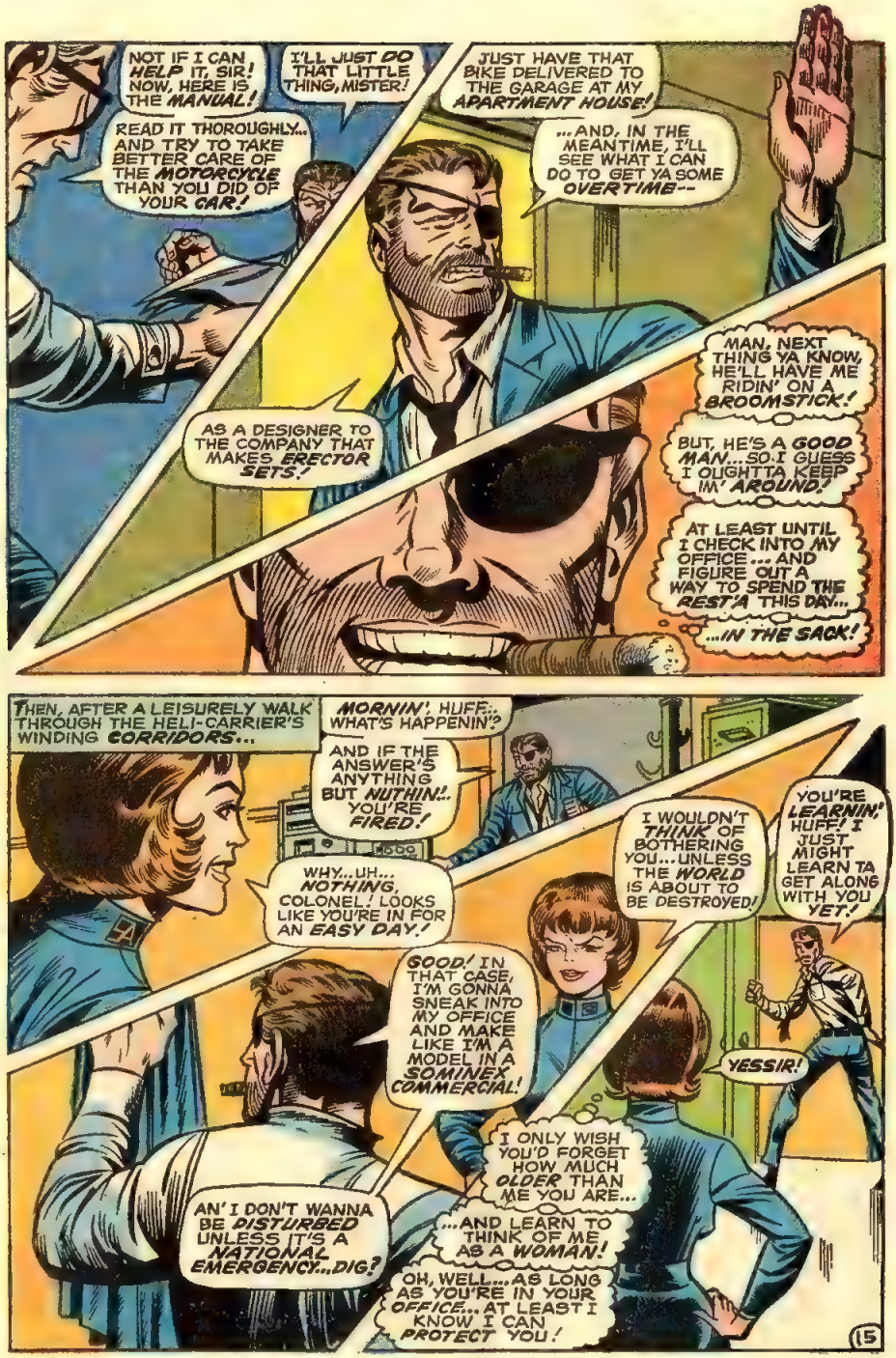

WOOSH!

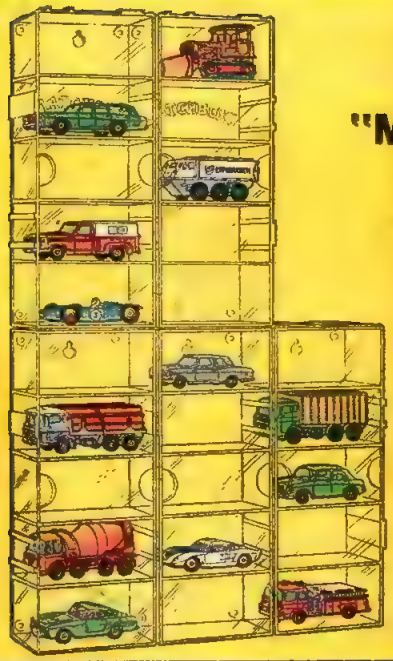

BARROOM!

AND, THE MOTORCYCLE IS EQUIPPED WITH *SIMILAR MISSILES* WHICH CAN BE FIRED FROM THE *REAR!*
BUT THAT'S NOT *ALL!*

IT IS ALSO EQUIPPED WITH A *MOLECULAR SCRAMBLER*...
...WHICH, AS YOU WILL SOON SEE, CAN MAKE THE MACHINE...


...*DISAPPEAR*...WITH BUT THE TOUCH OF A *BUTTON!*
YOU CAN LEARN ABOUT THE *OTHER* FEATURES FROM THE *OPERATORS' MANUAL* I'VE PREPARED!
YA DON'T MISS A *TRICK*, DO YA, GAFFER?


NOT IF I CAN HELP IT, SIR! NOW, HERE IS THE MANUAL!
I'LL JUST DO THAT LITTLE THING, MISTER!
READ IT THOROUGHLY... AND TRY TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF THE MOTORCYCLE THAN YOU DID OF YOUR CAR!
JUST HAVE THAT BIKE DELIVERED TO THE GARAGE AT MY APARTMENT HOUSE!
...AND, IN THE MEANTIME, I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO GET YA SOME OVERTIME--
AS A DESIGNER TO THE COMPANY THAT MAKES ERECTOR SETS!
MAN, NEXT THING YA KNOW, HE'LL HAVE ME RIDIN' ON A BROOMSTICK!
BUT, HE'S A GOOD MAN...SO I GUESS I OUGHTTA KEEP IM' AROUND!
AT LEAST UNTIL I CHECK INTO MY OFFICE... AND FIGURE OUT A WAY TO SPEND THE REST'A THIS DAY...
...IN THE SACK!
THEN, AFTER A LEISURELY WALK THROUGH THE HELI-CARRIER'S WINDING CORRIDORS...
MORNIN', HUFF... WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?
AND IF THE ANSWER'S ANYTHING BUT NUTHIN!.. YOU'RE FIRED!
WHY...UH... NOTHING, COLONEL! LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE IN FOR AN EASY DAY!
I WOULDN'T THINK OF BOTHERING YOU...UNLESS THE WORLD IS ABOUT TO BE DESTROYED!
YOU'RE LEARNIN', HUFF! I JUST MIGHT LEARN TA GET ALONG WITH YOU YET!
GOOD! IN THAT CASE, I'M GONNA SNEAK INTO MY OFFICE AND MAKE LIKE I'M A MODEL IN A SOMINEX COMMERCIAL!
YESSIR!
I ONLY WISH YOU'D FORGET HOW MUCH OLDER THAN ME YOU ARE...
...AND LEARN TO THINK OF ME AS A WOMAN!
AN' I DON'T WANNA BE DISTURBED UNLESS IT'S A NATIONAL EMERGENCY...DIG?
OH, WELL...AS LONG AS YOU'RE IN YOUR OFFICE... AT LEAST I KNOW I CAN PROTECT YOU!
15



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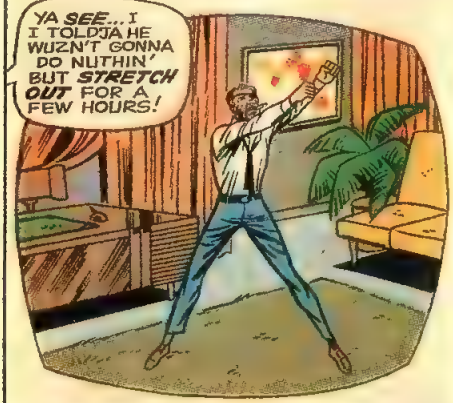

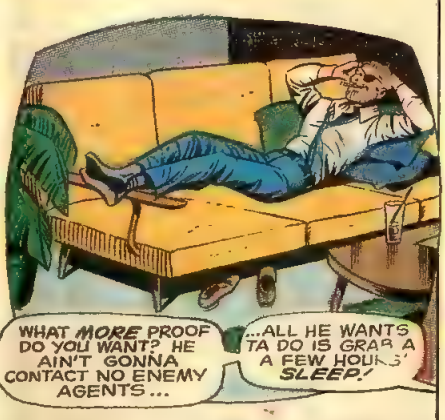

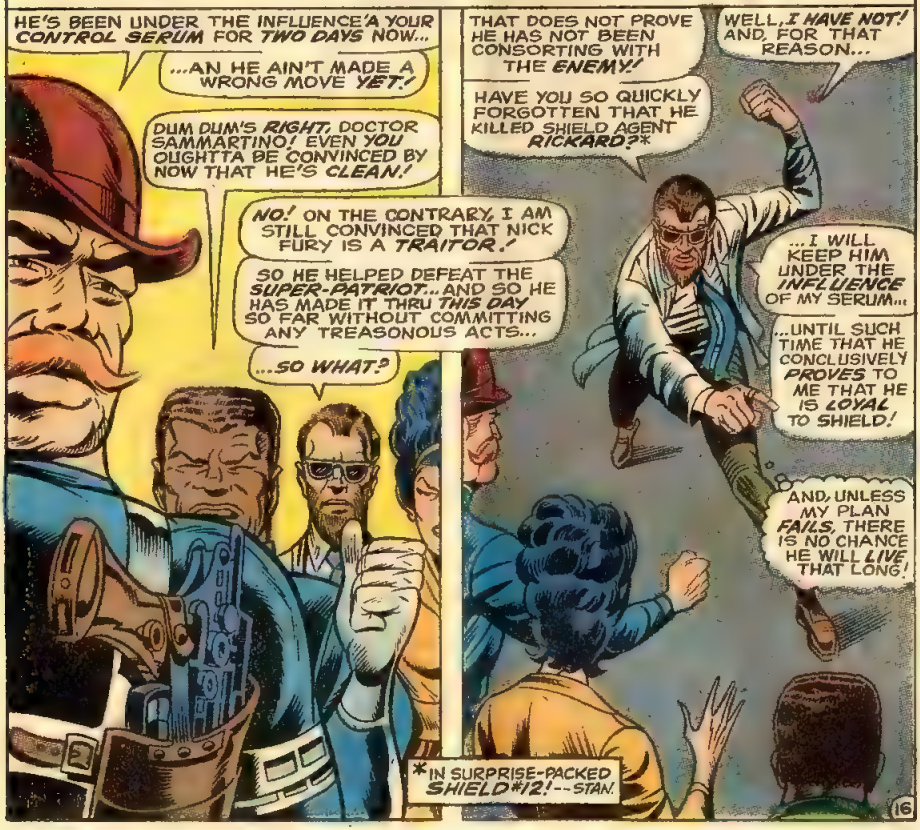
HE'S BEEN UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF YOUR CONTROL SERUM FOR TWO DAYS NOW...
...AN HE AIN'T MADE A WRONG MOVE YET!
DUM DUM'S RIGHT, DOCTOR SAMMARTINO! EVEN YOU OUGHTTA BE CONVINCED BY NOW THAT HE'S CLEAN!
NO! ON THE CONTRARY, I AM STILL CONVINCED THAT NICK FURY IS A TRAITOR!
SO HE HELPED DEFEAT THE SUPER-PATRIOT... AND SO HE HAS MADE IT THRU THIS DAY SO FAR WITHOUT COMMITTING ANY TREASONOUS ACTS...
...SO WHAT?
THAT DOES NOT PROVE HE HAS NOT BEEN CONSORTING WITH THE ENEMY!
HAVE YOU SO QUICKLY FORGOTTEN THAT HE KILLED SHIELD AGENT RICKARD?*
WELL, I HAVE NOT! AND, FOR THAT REASON...
...I WILL KEEP HIM UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MY SERUM...
...UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT HE CONCLUSIVELY PROVES TO ME THAT HE IS LOYAL TO SHIELD!
AND, UNLESS MY PLAN FAILS, THERE IS NO CHANCE HE WILL LIVE THAT LONG!

*IN SURPRISE-PACKED SHIELD #12! --STAN.

SONUVAGUN! I WUZ JUST HOPIN' YOU'D BRING THAT UP...
...'CAUSE I BEEN DOIN' SOME CHECKIN' UP ON THAT STIFF...
...AND YOU AIN'T GONNA BELIEVE WHAT I DUG UP ON 'IM!
YA KNOW, IT'S A FUNNY THING, BUT, AFTER A LOTTA RESEARCH...
...I JUST HAPPENED TO FIND OUT THAT HE WUZ A HYDRA AGENT!
YOU...YOU MUST BE CRAZY!
YEAH, DOC! JUST CRAZY ENOUGH TO FIND OUT THAT YOU AND RICKARD HAD A BUNCH OF MEETINGS ON THE SLY! WHY??
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME! I'LL HAVE YOUR RANK FOR THIS, DUGAN!
IF I WERE WORKING FOR HYDRA, WHY DIDN'T I EXERT MY CONTROL OVER FURY...
...AND CAUSE HIM TO DESTROY HIMSELF?
PROBABLY 'CAUSE EVEN YOUR SERUM WASN'T THAT STRONG --JUST LIKE A GUY CAN'T BE HYPNO-TIZED INTO KILLIN'!
EXCEPT FOR THAT, THOUGH--
FURY'S BEEN LIKE A ROBOT SINCE YA SHOT THAT STUFF INTO HIS VEINS...
...AND IT'S MADE HIM DO WHATEVER YOU WILLED HIM TO DO...
...WITH HIM NOT REALLY KNOWIN' IT!
BUT NOW, AS SOON AS HE WAKES UP... IT'S GONNA BE HIS TURN TO LAY DOWN THE LAW TO YOU!
...THAT IS, IF I LEAVE ANYTHING FOR 'IM' TO LAY DOWN THE LAW TO!
FOOL! IF YOU THINK YOU ARE A MATCH FOR HYDRA...
...YOU HAD BEST GUESS AGAIN!
POOOF!
AAAKKKF! *KOFF* *KOFF!*
TRICKED 'IM-- INTO EXPOSIN' HIMSELF--
17

MEANWHILE, IN FURY'S OFFICE...
COLONEL... COLONEL! IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK!
TIME TO GET UP... AND HEAD FOR HOME!
HHUUUUUMMM! ARE YOU AN ANGEL...
...OR JUST MY BUSY-BODY TEENY-BOPPIN' SECRETARY?
THE LATTER, I'M AFRAID, SIR!
THAT'S... WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF!
NOW... YAAWWWNNN... DIG OUTTA HERE, HONEY!
OH, WELL... YA CAN'T WIN 'EM ALL.
IF I SLEPT THROUGH THE WHOLE DAY..THAT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW I'M ALIVE...
...EXCEPT TO KEEP HIS APPOINTMENTS! STRAIGHT!
BUT, I GUESS THAT'S BETTER THAN NOT SEEING HIM AT ALL!
BESIDES, I CAN ALWAYS HOPE THAT HE'LL... OOOOHHHH!
FORGIVE ME, AGENT HUFF! I DIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU!
BUT, SOMETHING URGENT HAS COME UP... AND I MUST SEE COLONEL FURY... IMMEDIATELY!
WELL...UHHH... CERTAINLY. GO RIGHT IN, DOCTOR!
THANK YOU!
NOW, IF I MOVE CAREFULLY ENOUGH...
NICK FURY WILL MEET HIS END!
GOOD AFTERNOON, COLONEL! KINDLY RAISE YOUR HANDS... AND BACK AGAINST THE WALL!
WHAT THE DEVIL...?!
COOPERATE... AND YOU WILL FEEL NOTHING!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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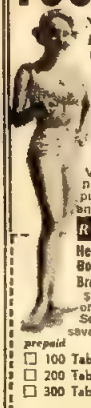

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THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, YA CREEP!
BLAST 'IM, GABE! THE COLONEL'S DOWN!

YOU HAVE ARRIVED TOO LATE... AT LEAST TOO LATE TO PREVENT MY ESCAPE!
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ZAPT!
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I MISSED 'IM, DUM DUM! AND HE'S MOVIN' OUT, TOO FAST FOR ME TO GET ANOTHER SHOT!
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YOU BET YER SERGEANT'S STRIPES YOU ARE! IT WAS ALL SOME KIND'A HYDRA FRAME-UP!
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YEAH, I GUESS YER RIGHT, YA OL' WALRUS! SO, I GUESS I BETTER GET UP AND HEAD FOR HOME...
SOON AS I THANK MY SECRETARY HERE... FOR SAVIN' MY HIDE!
OH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO THANK ME, SIR!
THE DEVIL I DON'T! YOU JUST STOP SQUIRMIN' AND COME HERE!
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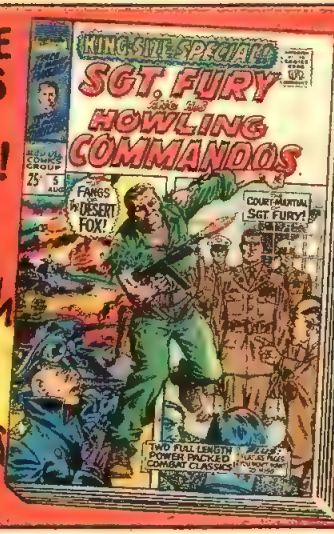
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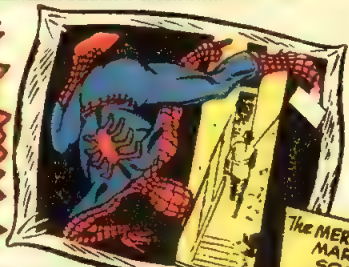

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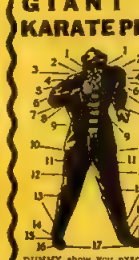

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Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,

I usually enjoy your publication, SHIELD, and have each of the SHIELD mags. However, I am rather disappointed in your recent effort (issue #11). I realized at once I probably wouldn't like the issue when I first saw page 3. I do not like hippies or their music, you see. In fact, I agree with Wallace on this point: "Run 'em over." What's more, some of the comic reminded me of the book and movie WILD IN THE STREETS, where a rock'n'roll singer became President, proclaimed 30 to be retirement age, and advocated "Youth Power" and other such balderdash.

Now, I am a high school junior, not an older reader. I hope that having these troshy hippies in your mag won't continue, Stan. Also, I hope that this first SHIELD issue of 1969 won't be an example of the forthcoming issues. Well, I realize you are tired of me knocking this mag (your only bad one of the series) and I hope each of you at the Bullpen have a happy year.

Steve Cline, 146 Valley Rd.
Waynesboro, Va. 22980

And we wish the same to you, Steve.

Still, we always try to tell it like it is, and without trying to step on anybody's political views, we'll have to take exception with you on the matter of your blanket condemnation of "hippies" — certainly a name which covers as divergent a breed of people as any press-spawned term ever tried to squeeze into a single blaring headline.

If you wish to see things in black and white, good and bad, we'd have to insist that there are "good" and "bad" hippies — with the emphasis on the quotation marks. (And, just in case you wonder if we know whereof we speak, it behooves us to state that many of the Bullpen live and work in New York City, whose Greenwich Village and East Village certainly have their share of the group. If further evidence be needed, we might point out that Gary F., who scripted ish #11, recently spent a goodly amount of time amongst these so-called "hippies" during the several months he lived in sunny California — the other geographic area most often identified with the hippie movement, if such a thing there be.)

We're not trying to put you down, Steve — far from it! And we'll be the first to admit that the mass media (including quite possibly Marvel Comics) have overplayed this particular youth cult in the past — something which we've taken pains to correct, so that we now employ "hippies" only in stories which absolutely require their presence, such as SHIELD #11!

Still, we'll have to close this long, long answer by exhorting you and others to make a harder, more concerted effort to remember that any attempt to label any large group of people — whether "hippies" and "The Establishment"; "reactionaries" and "leftists"; "good" and "bad" — is bound to fall far, far short of the mark.

And now, we'll step off our soapbox to allow you — and the rest of Marveldom Assembled — to have equal time. The stage is yours, pilgrims!

Messrs. Stan Lee, Steve Parkhouse, and Barry Smith,

Val is back! Hydra is back! Gabe and Jimmy Woo are back! It's like old home week. Here's one vote for a long run for Parkhouse and Smith on SHIELD.

Nick Fury is your only para-human hero — no superpowers, no mechanical genius, only a lot of tough scrapes he's managed to survive in the course of three "hot" wars and the long-standing cold one that's always good for a headline. All Fury has is guts — and SHIELD, that bountiful repository of the best that twenty-first century weapons technology will provide us. SHIELD is your most technological book; one of its biggest attractions has been (for me) seeing what your most adventurous, "blue-sky"-ingest writers and artist will dream up to equip the agents of SHIELD, Hydra and their subsidiaries. Whatever it was that hooked me on Steranko's SHIELD stories in STRANGE TALES (one of the first Marvel mags to get to me), it left when Jim left. Now it's back. I hope it stays for a while.

Max Kerpelman, 549 Orange St.
New Haven, Conn. 06511

So do we, Max, although now it'll be up to Gary Friedrich and Herb Trimpe, since Barry's recent return to the British Isles has necessitated his doing only that single issue. Are Gary and Herb up to it? Stay turned on to SHIELD — and see!

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Dear Stan, Steve, and Barry,

I never DID yield. I backed SHIELD, even in the days before Jim Steranko, when a different artist was doing it every month, because I found the story had something. I didn't even like Jim's early messy style, although I was glad to see Hydra back. Then Steranko hit his stride, and SHIELD and Nick Fury took off like a rocket. Shifting Steranko to some of your other magazines that I don't read bothered me greatly, but I stuck with it through a number of blah issues. I just don't think Nick Fury can make it without an advanced art style to keep one's mind off the logical holes in the whole SHIELD-Nick Fury universe.

Well, now you have Barry Smith. Keep him! Give him enough rope and you will have another Steranko on your hands. Give him a bit more time on each issue to go for broke. A few constructive bits of criticism: I can live with Fury being unshaven again, but he looks too young and too long of hair. After all, he is fifty! Val looks horrible; surely this is an oversight; surely this is an oversight, although she always was drawn a little too pretty to be believed. Gabe is handled well, but Dum Dum in the last panel isn't. And Fury in profile on the cover bears small resemblance to Fury full face, while Val on the cover looks more as Val should look than she does inside. Piddling comments really — the use of computer-style lettering on the splash page makes up for them all. It should be interesting to see what direction Smith heads when he really breaks loose. Hang in!

Sandy Meschkow, 47-28 45th St.
Woodside, Queens 11377

We'll hang both *in* and *loose*, Sandy — and, from the fog-bound shores of merrie England, Barry Smith says thanks!

Dear Stan, Steve and Barry,

Whoops! SHIELD #12 was sub-standard! Barry Smith looked like he was trying to mix Jack Kirby's style with Jim Steranko's layouts, but first he's got to learn how to draw the human body. Are those sticks on page 4 really Fury's legs? Do those lines on his chin really represent a beard? Many of the illustrations are vague and incoherent. For heaven's sake, what is that thing at the bottom of page 6? Object relationships are not clear on page 12. The foreshortening is ridiculous in the first panel. And what is Fury entering in the second panel? What are those two miniature men doing fighting on top of a table? I guessed it was a statue, but it's got to be clearer. There was a very good layout on page 9, however.

As for the story, it was a good idea, but even it was incoherent too. The use of flashback was poor — when does the past blend in with the present? Several passages I had to read over to understand.

So, to wrap it up, get Steranko back on the strip. He isn't even doing CAPTAIN AMERICA anymore! And use any scripter except Steve Parkhouse. You've violated the number one rule of comics — coherency!

Ever since I started reading SHIELD I've been expecting a lot from it, because it has a great future. Don't abandon it now!

Scott Brown, 2635 Yellow Creek Road
Akron, Ohio 44313

Barry and Steve themselves felt that they got a bit carried away in that recent ish — and there were technical problems with the inking that are too complicated to go into. Suffice it to say that bashful Barry is doing, we think, much better work on the current issue of AVENGERS — and that, since the talented young Britisher is only twenty years old (several years younger than even jaunty Jim Steranko when he entered the comics field), we think you'll yet live to think better of his efforts!

We'll check back with you in a decade or so, Scott — if we don't misplace your address!

Dear Stan,

Excerpt from the novel, 'The Nick Fury Dosier', compiled, edited and annotated by Mister Dum Dum Dugan, obviously a pen-name. The selection following depicts a meeting Dugan held with a certain woman named Countess Val at the Gloom Room A Go-Go, selected as a meeting site for its covert atmosphere. The sampling follows: There were sounds. Loud music filled the room with tangible throbs. We sat in the corner of the room at a small table. Shadows played across the softness of the Countess' face. "In asking questions about the current Nick Fury, I've heard that you assume this transition may be due in part to a gentleman named Mister James Steranko," I asked quietly. "Would you comment on this?"

Her eyes swept the room casually, yet — in their dark depths there was cunning. She turned to me, whispering softly, elegantly, as the music enshrouded our vestige of tranquility. "Yes, that's true," she murmured. "It happened way back when Nick's foe, the mysterious Scorpio, infiltrated the ranks of SHIELD by impersonating Nick."

"I was there at the time," I told her.

She continued, pale pink lips barely parting, a face of finely carved china. "He had left me at his apartment that morning and I haven't seen him since. Not even a phone call. As if, for some reason, he has been avoiding me!"

"Do you think it possible that you might be the one person to determine if this was the real Nick Fury?" I asked as her eyes once again surveyed the room, lingering without appearing to on a dark form near the entrance.

"Perhaps. There are some peculiar things that I've noticed of Nick recently, more than the mere fact that his physical appearance has changed somewhat."

I motioned to the figure in the doorway. "Who's that?" Did she hear me? Did she notice? The figure darted from the entrance into the shadows.

"You have surely heard of the recent 'First Million Megaton Explosion'? The clever layout spread. Designed to make us think this to be the same Fury we'd seen before. But why would Fury allow important missile bases to be taken over by people under the influence of the Hate-Monger?"

"You've got me," I said. The man was getting closer, reaching into his suitcoat. Still, Val did not notice him.

Her voice continued, soothing, soft, yet distinguishable above the music. "It was a clever opening though. Especially the fourth page. But after that — what happened? Everything went downhill and . . ." She was startled. The figure which had been near us pulled a strange, intricate looking weapon from his pocket, and leveled the nozzle toward Val. With one deft motion, she catapulted from her chair, striking the floor in flawless motion. Her hand disappeared in folds of cloth and reappeared with a small smooth object. There was a sound almost undistinguishable above the music as the man clutched his throat, his face in anguish. He fell to the carpet and Val stood up, turned to me and asked, "Now, where were we?"

End of excerpt from 'The Nick Fury Dosier', Chapter 2: 'The First Million Megaton Explosion.'

Donald F. McGregor, 43 Wildwood Avenue
Providence, R.I. 02907

No comment, Don — mainly because we're waiting to see your (and many other fans') reaction to the agonizin' artwork of Herb Trimpe, who took the helm in issue #13. If it isn't too immodest of us, we'd like to state that we think Herb's renderings are the best we've seen on Shield since the Jaunty One moved on to other things (among them, the macabre TOWER OF SHADOWS #1, now on sale)! And Groovy Gary's scripts have been nothing to slough off, either! Okay—that's our verdict, frantic ones! Now, what's yours?

Do you have art talent worth developing? Take our free test and see

If you have ever wondered whether you had art talent, here is your chance to find out. The founders of Famous Artists School have put together what many artists and educators consider to be the most revealing test of art ability ever devised. It is offered to you free.

Designed for people uncertain of their ability

The people who take this Art Talent Test are of all ages and occupations. Most of them have little or no previous art training. By professional standards, their drawings may be awkward and amateurish. But the ones who possess the gift of art talent reveal it in many ways. Through simple little exercises, they show the inborn sense of design, the feeling for composition, the ability to observe, and the lively imagination which are such important ingredients of art talent.

The reliability of this method of screening, as well as the effectiveness of the training, has been proven again and again by the success of our students and graduates.

They passed the test and went on to become successful artists

When Anthony Fotia took the Art Talent Test, he was a mail clerk, "stuck" in a low-pay routine job. Today, he's an artist for a printing firm, doing exciting creative work. Kathleen Gironda went from a salesgirl in a department store to a fashion illustrator in the same store. Virginia Bartter, a farmer's wife and mother of three, now sells just about everything she paints. These are just a few of the literally hundreds of "success stories" our students report to us.

So if you love to sketch or dabble in paints—and have often wondered if you "have what it takes" to become a well-paid commercial artist or spare-time professional painter—why not seize this opportunity to find out? All you need is a pencil and a half-hour of your time. With your special interest, it will be one of the most intriguing and enjoyable half-hours you ever spent.

What the Talent Test covers

First, you will be shown ten pairs of simple designs and asked to pick the one in each pair that has "a feeling of rightness" about it. Then you will see twenty pairs of pictures, and check which composition in each pair is more pleasing. You'll be asked to do original sketches to demonstrate your imagination and powers of observation. And in similar ways, your instinctive feeling for mood, form, movement, facial expressions, textures, and so on will be tested.

When you complete the test and mail it back, it will be graded free by a member of the School's staff. If you receive a passing grade (and we must warn you that many don't), or can offer sufficient evidence of art talent, you will then be eligible to enroll. You may choose whichever of our courses is best suited to your goals.

Courses offer personal instruction

These courses were especially designed for talented people who can't leave their families or jobs for art training away from home. The 12 famous artists who started the School over 19 years ago contributed all their lifetime secrets of art technique to what they believe to be the finest art lessons ever created. They took time out from their own busy careers and made thousands of special drawings to demonstrate each point. Then they devised a method of constructive criticism that is as personal as tutoring. Your instructor, who is himself required to be a practicing professional artist, spends up to several hours on just one of your assignments. He actually draws or paints his suggestions for improvement on a separate sheet of paper, and then "talks" to you by letter, dictating a long, friendly message of specific advice and encouragement.

You will receive an interesting brochure about our School and its revolutionary methods along with your free Art Talent Test. If you have ever dreamed of success in art, and wondered if it were possible, why not mail the coupon at left for both the Talent Test and the brochure right now?

Famous Artists School
Studio A-8174
Westport, Conn. 06880

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss } ← *Please circle one and print name*

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DEVELOPED BY TOP SCIENTISTS
The ABSClub program is a real science course developed with world famous Southwest Research Institute — a non-profit public service organization, nationally recognized as the center of scientific research in the Southwest.

EQUIPMENT IS GOOD QUALITY
These kits are not toys. They consist of standard components by Centralab, General Electric, Strobolite, Leviton, Precision Tube, Cinch-Jones, Mallory, Lancaster Lens, General Instrument, Trim, RCA, Stackpole, Eastman Kodak and other reliable manufacturers.

NO SPECIAL TOOLS REQUIRED
All you need are a screwdriver and pliers. Also included: hardware, wire, etc.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
This program offers such a variety of activities that every member of the family can find a field of interest. In many homes, working with the kits is a family affair enjoyed by all.

INVALUABLE FOR STUDENTS
Makes school science fascinating and easy. Gives students a real head start. The kits are a valuable source of ideas and equipment for school projects.

MEMBERS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC
Over 50,000 members have successfully used and enjoyed these kits. All the projects are proven and practical.

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F. Baterick, Manhall, Pa.

"I have enjoyed every kit. I wish I could give them to all my students."
Allen T. Ayers, Physics Dept., Jamestown High School, Jamestown, New York.

"Hard-to-get equipment at a great price. Thanks to your kits I am enjoying new fields of science."
J. Allemong, White Springs, Illinois.

"The ABSClub kits are very practical, interesting and educational . . and the projects always work."
Larry Schutts, Eden, New York.

"I have immensely enjoyed every minute with the kits, and eagerly await the postman every month."
Fred Carter, Sanford, Florida.

"A wealth of information presented in an easy-to-learn manner."
Tom Webster, Vidor, Texas.

"It is incredible that we can obtain so much material for such a price. The manuals alone are a great value."
Sister M. Maris, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana

"I am an electronics student in the Air Force. What we have not covered anything in school that your kits have not covered.
John G. Dill, Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Miss.

"When I started your program I knew little about any of the topics that you presented. I now am repairing radios and photography is my main hobby."
Bruce Russell, Denver, Colo.

"I have been working with the kits with my wife . . . because it's more fun. Your program is great."
Paul Snyder, Air Travel Service, Detroit City Airport.

"A friend of mine is taking a correspondence course in electronics. I've learned more from your first two kits than he has in twenty lessons."
Ray P. Blodeau, Leominster, Mass.

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All the equipment for basic electrical experiments with **Wheatstone Bridge** (measures resistance), **Magnetizer** and **Demagnetizer**, **Thermocouple**, **Mystery Shock Box**, **Continuity Tester**, **Extinction Voltmeter**, **Solenoid Coin Tosser**, **Electromagnetic Relay**, **Neon Lamp**, **Galvanometer**, **Induction Coil**, **Resistors**, **Chemicals** and **Electrodes** for Plating and Electrolysis. **FOR SAFETY** a step-down **Isolation Transformer** provides required current.

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YOU BUILD A SHORTWAVE AND BROADCAST RADIO. 3-tube regenerative circuit. Uses 115V AC. **CARBON MICROPHONE** with **AUDIO AMPLIFIER**. **RADIO TRANSMITTER** for code or voice. **RIPPLE TANK WAVE GENERATOR** with variable frequency. Invaluable in the understanding of wave theory. **CODE PRACTICE OSCILLATOR** with manual, **"Steps to a Ham License."** All you need to pass the FCC Ham License Exam.

ATOMIC ENERGY LAB
ATOMIC CLOUD CHAMBER with **PROJECTOR ILLUMINATOR**. See the vapor trails of alpha and beta particles, and of cosmic rays. **SPINTHARISCOPE**. Shows exploding atoms. **ELECTROSCOPE** — metal housed with **Scale** and **Magnifying Viewer**. Measures background radiation and tests sample sources. **SAFE RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS**. Alpha Source in handy container and Uranium Ore. **Full instructions and explanation open up the fascinating field of nuclear physics.**

STROBE LIGHT
A Neon Lamp that flashes at intervals you can synchronize with the speed of rotating or vibrating objects in order to "freeze" their motion for careful study and reference. Instructions for checking frequencies and RPM. Flashes are timed by a variable frequency oscillator with a range of 20 to 600 cycles per second.

RADIO SERVICING TOOLS
Signal Tracer. Trouble Shooting Probe. **SIGNAL TRACER.** A valuable trouble shooting item in any serviceman's kit. Use the probe through a faulty circuit until you find the trouble spot. **CONTINUITY TESTER.** Pin-points open circuits and test voltages. The use of both pieces fully described in accompanying manual, **"Simplified Radio and TV Servicing."**

SPECTROSCOPE
Analyze spectra of glowing gases. See and identify the Fraunhofer Lines. A quality instrument featuring an **easy-to-read** built-in **scale** and a **powerful condensing system** for a bright spectrum. Equipment includes **Alcohol Burner** and a **2 Watt Neon Spectral Lamp. Full instructions cover theory and use.**

PHOTOELECTRIC RELAY
Crystal Photocell, Electronic Amplifier, Relay, large Condensing Lens in Cabinet Mount. Features automatic on-or-off or holding circuit operation. Sensitivity Control. Plug-in Outlet for controlled circuit. Use for alarms, counters, etc. Operates on 115V AC. **A basic unit for many exciting experiments.**

DC POWER SUPPLY
Changes regular 110-120V AC to the direct current required for electronic projects and experiments. Consists of a **Power Transformer**, **Vacuum Tube Rectifier**, **20/30 MFD Capacitator Filter Circuit**, and a **potentiometer Voltage Selector**. A **Safe Isolated Power Supply** eliminates the need of expensive multi-volt batteries.

ULTRAVIOLET LAMP
160 watt fiber type UV LAMP. Heavy metal cabinet. 6 Foot Cord, Rotary Switch. Produces dazzling color effects with included Black Light. Has many uses in the fields of Mineralogy, Crime Detection and Science. Accessories include **Invisible Ink, Tracer Powder, Fluorescent Crayons.**

ANALOG COMPUTER
Dual Electronic Computer multiplies, divides, calculates powers, roots. Set up the problem on the scales of two potentiometers and find the answer on the scale of third potentiometer. Manual explains theory and practical application Manual covers computer theory and practical use. Over 150 sample problems and answers demonstrate use with fractions, trigonometry, logorithms, physics formulas, ballistics, etc.

MICROCRAFT LAB
Microprojector shows microscopic subjects enlarged with brilliant detail on wall or screen. Has sturdy Steel Cabinet, large Condensing Lenses for extra brightness, and a DE Projection Lamp. **Microscope** features Ramsden Eye-piece for wide field viewing, Substage Light and Polarizing Filters. Magnifies up to 200X. Includes: **Slides, Cover Glasses and Microscopy Manual.**

SURVEYOR'S TRANSIT
A practical Transit. 6X erect image telescope with large Tinder Reticle for measuring remote distances and heights. Vernier reading for both horizontal and vertical scales. Leveling Head with Thumb Screw Adjustment and Spirit Level. Clamps under head hold wooden legs of Tripod. (Legs not included.) **Instructions cover elementary surveying, range-finding.**

LIGHT AND OPTICS LAB
Exciting optical projects for the study of light. Equipment includes: **Five Precision Lenses, Prism, Polarizing Filters, Diffraction Grating, Mirror, Telescoping Tubing, Lens Mounts, Tube Holders and Brackets.** All the parts and instructions to build a Camera Obscura, Camera Lucida, Polariscope, and many other optical devices.

Measuring Wavelength of Light

PHOTOMICROGRAPHY CAMERA
Photographs subjects mounted on microscope slides. Enlarges up to 100X. Takes clear, sharp pictures of specimens too small to be seen with the naked eye. **A fully self-contained unit** — no microscope required. Uses standard roll film, either 120 or 620, black and white or color. **Make a photographic record of your projects with microscopic subjects.**

TELESCOPE AND MOUNT
30X erect image. Extends to 36" length. Five ground and polished Lenses. **Ramsden Eyepiece. Sturdy Equatorial Mount** makes it easy to follow the movement of heavenly bodies. Mount has fittings for wooden legs that complete the tripod (legs are regular 1x2 lumber not included).

PHOTOGRAPHY LAB
A PRECISION 35MM ENLARGER . . . horizontal type with twin condensing lenses and 3" f/6 projection lens. Produces quality enlargements up to **8"x 10"**. Contact Print Frame takes negatives up **3½"x 4½"**. **3 Plastic Developing Trays, Neon Safelight, Tray Thermometer, Film Clips, Developing Chemicals, Printing and Enlarging Paper and Darkroom Handbook.** Make quality enlargements for 4¢. Make prints for only **2¢**. Full instructions.

LIGHT TRANSMITTER-RECEIVER
TRANSMITTER consists of a **Light Source**, a **Modulating Reflector Diaphragm** and an **Optical Projection System.** The **RECEIVER** is a **Two-Stage Audio Amplifier**, controlled by a Photo-electric Cell that catches the projected light beam and causes the original sound waves to be reproduced in the headphone.

Talking on a Light Beam

WEATHER STATION
A SENSITIVE READING ANEMOMETER AND WIND-VANE . . . **Flashing Neon Lights** on indoor multi-color board show wind speed and direction. **Safety Power Cord** includes all connections safe. 100 ft. of Lead-in Wire. **Plus—Air Tank Barometer** with 4ft. indicator column. **Sling psychrometer** measures relative humidity. **Rain Gauge** measures rainfall to 1/100 inch. ALSO Cloud Chart, Weather Map and Forecasting Manual— a complete set-up for amateur meteorology.

You get ALL the equipment for ALL the above in nine monthly kits

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Take as few as you wish—or get all nine . . . it's up to you!

SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q. How is it possible? It seems incredible to be able to get all the equipment shown above in just nine kits—at only $4.95 per kit!

A. The direct-to-you "no middleman" club plan is just part of the answer. The other key is ABSClub's especially designed multi-use equipment. For example: the Microprojector quickly and easily converts into the Spectroscope, Photo Enlarger and Cloud Chamber Illuminator. Similarly, the Transit doubles as a Telescope Mount. Such multi-purpose design . . . plus club plan economy . . . makes possible this all-science program at a price everyone can afford.

Q. May members choose the order in which they receive their kits?

A. Yes. With the first kit members receive a list of the equipment and projects contained in each of the remaining eight kits. With this information they are able to choose the kit sequence that best suits their particular interest.

Q. Can members get their kits all at once instead of one-a-month?

A. Yes. At any time members can have the balance of their kits sent in one shipment. We recommend that you start on the kit-a-month plan because the monthly spacing will give you time to get the full measure of knowledge and enjoyment that each kit has to offer.

MAKE SCIENCE YOUR HOBBY!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY — IT'S FUN! IT'S EASY!

NO OBLIGATION—NO RISK!

★ **You take only as many kits as you wish. No minimum—you may cancel anytime.**

★ **Two weeks approval on each kit you take. You may return any kit for full refund.**

Send coupon today—get your first kit on its way!

TRIAL MEMBERSHIP COUPON

I wish to try the Kit-a-Month Program:

☐ I enclose $1.00 to enroll and $4.95 for the first kit postpaid.

☐ I enclose $1.00 to enroll. Send first kit COD. I'll pay COD fee.

I understand if I am not satisfied with the first kit I may return it for a complete refund including the $1.00 membership fee.

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CITY AND STATE (PLEASE PRINT) ZIP CODE

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104 Heimann, San Antonio, Texas 78205

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